

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A fast-erecting portable structure comprising:

- a first flexible framing rod formed substantially into an inverted u-shape with an apex, the first flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle,
- a second flexible framing rod formed substantially into an inverted u-shape with an apex, the second flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle, and wherein the second flexible framing rod crosses the first flexible framing rod near the apexes of the inverted u-shapes,
- a flexible skin, the flexible skin slidably connected to the middle of the first flexible framing rod, slidably connected to the middle of the second flexible framing rod, non-removably connected to the two ends of the first flexible framing [[rods]] rod, and non-removably connected to the two ends of second flexible framing rod,
and wherein the two ends of the first flexible framing rod and the two ends of the second flexible framing rod act as a base of the fast-erected portable structure.

Claim 2 (previously amended): The fast-erecting portable structure of claim 1 wherein the first and second flexible framing rods are slidably connected to the flexible skin by sleeves.

Claim 3 (previously amended): The fast-erecting portable structure of claim 2 wherein the sleeves are made of substantially the same material as the flexible skin of the tent.

Claim 4 (previously amended): The fast-erecting portable structure of claim 2 wherein the first and second flexible framing rods are slidably connected to the flexible skin of the tent with the sleeves wherein the sleeves are sewn into the flexible skin along substantially the length of the sleeves.

Claim 5 (previously amended): The fast-erecting portable structure of claim 2 wherein the first and second flexible framing rods are slidably connected to the flexible skin of the tent with the sleeves wherein the sleeves are intermittent sleeves sewn into the flexible skin.

Claim 6 (original): The fast-erecting portable structure of claim 1 further comprising a fly and a fly framing rod, the fly framing rod having two ends and a middle, the fly non-removably connected to the two ends of the fly framing rod and the fly removably connected to the portable structure.

Claim 7 (previously amended): The fast-erecting portable structure of claim 1 further comprising a third flexible framing rod formed substantially into an inverted u-shape with an apex, the third flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle, and wherein the third flexible framing rod crosses the first flexible framing rod and the second flexible framing rod near the apexes of the inverted u-shape of the first and second flexible framing rods, and wherein the flexible skin is removably connected to the middle of the third flexible framing rod and non-removably connected to the two ends of the third flexible framing rod.

Claim 8 (previously amended): The fast-erecting portable structure of claim 7 further comprising a fourth flexible framing rod formed substantially into an inverted u-shape with an apex, the fourth flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle, and wherein the fourth flexible framing rod crosses the first flexible framing rod, the second flexible framing rod, and the third flexible framing rod near the apexes of the inverted u-shape of the first, second, and third flexible framing rods, and wherein the flexible skin is removably connected to the middle of the fourth flexible framing rod and non-removably connected to the two ends of the fourth flexible framing rod.

Claim 9 (original): The fast-erecting portable structure of claim 8 further comprising a fly and a fly framing rod, the fly framing rod having two ends and a middle, the fly non-removably connected to the two ends of the fly framing rod and the fly removably connected to the portable structure.

Claim 10 (original): The fast-erecting portable structure of claim 7 wherein the third flexible framing rod is removably connected to the flexible skin by a plurality of framing rod hooks, the framing rod hooks being non-removably connected to the flexible skin.

Claim 11 (original): The fast-erecting portable structure of claim 7 wherein the flexible framing rods are constructed from material selected from the group consisting of steel, spring wire, plastic rod, fiberglass and structural polymer material.

Claim 12 (original): The fast-erecting portable structure of claim 7 wherein the flexible framing rods move independently of each other.

Claim 13 (previously amended): The fast-erecting portable structure of claim 7 wherein the flexible skin comprises material selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, and cotton.

Claim 14 (original): The fast-erecting portable structure of claim 7 wherein the flexible skin is connected to at least one flexible framing rod near the intersection of the framing rods by a flexible tie.

Claim 15 (previously amended): The fast-erecting portable structure of claim 1 further comprising a third flexible framing rod formed substantially into an inverted u-shape with an apex, the third flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle, and wherein the third flexible framing rod crosses the first flexible framing rod and the second flexible framing rod at a location offset from where the first flexible framing rod and the second flexible framing rod cross each other, and wherein the flexible skin is removably connected to the middle of the third flexible framing rod and non-removably connected to the two ends of the third flexible framing rod.

Claim 16 (previously amended): The fast-erecting portable structure of claim 15 further comprising a fourth flexible framing rod formed substantially into an inverted u-shape with an apex, the fourth flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle, and wherein the

fourth flexible framing rod crosses the first flexible framing rod and the second flexible framing rod and third flexible framing rod at a location offset from where the first flexible framing rod, the second flexible framing rod, and third flexible framing rod cross each other, and wherein the flexible skin is removably connected to the middle of the fourth flexible framing rod and non-removably connected to the two ends of the fourth flexible framing rod.

Claim 17 (previously amended): A storage bag for storing a fast-erecting portable structure having flexible rods, the storage bag comprising,

a front sheet having a front sheet perimeter, a front sheet inside face, a front sheet outside face, an opening flap, and an opening flap perimeter, wherein there is a distance between the opening flap perimeter and the front sheet perimeter that is at least one inch,

a back sheet having a back sheet perimeter, a back sheet inside face, a back sheet outside face, and a first pocket, wherein the first pocket is connected to the back sheet inside face near the back sheet perimeter and the front sheet perimeter is connected to the back sheet perimeter, wherein the first pocket is oriented to receive the ends of the flexible rods.

Claim 18 (original): The storage bag of claim 17 further comprising a spacer having a first edge and a second edge, wherein the first edge of the spacer is connected to the front sheet perimeter and the second edge of the spacer is connected to the back sheet perimeter.

Claim 19 (original): The storage bag of claim 18 further comprising a second pocket connected to the inside face of the front sheet near the perimeter.

Claim 20 (previously amended): The storage bag of claim 19 wherein the first pocket further comprises a first opening and the second pocket further comprises a second opening and wherein the first opening and the second opening face in opposite directions.

Claim 21 (original): The storage bag of claim 17 further comprising a zipper connected to the front sheet along the opening flap perimeter.

Claim 22 (original): The storage bag of claim 17 wherein the storage bag is in the shape of a circular disk.

Claim 23 (original): The storage bag of claim 17 wherein the storage bag is in the shape of an elongated circular disk.

Claim 24 (previously amended) A method of stowing a fast-erecting portable structure comprising the steps of:

obtaining a fast-erecting tent having a flexible skin, a first flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle, a second flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle, wherein the flexible skin is slidably connected to the middle of the first flexible framing rod, slidably connected to the middle of the second flexible framing rod, and non-removably connected to the two ends of the first flexible framing rods, and

non-removably connected to the two ends of the second flexible framing rod, and wherein when the fast-erecting portable structure is released, the first flexible framing rod forms substantially into an inverted u-shape with an apex, and the second flexible framing rod forms substantially into an inverted u-shape with an apex, and wherein the second flexible framing rod crosses the first flexible framing rod near the apexes of the inverted u-shapes, and the flexible skin, supported by the first flexible framing rod and the second flexible framing rod, forms a dome shape, obtaining a storage bag comprising a front sheet having a front sheet perimeter, a first inside face, a first outside face, and an opening flap, wherein the opening flap has an opening flap wherein there is a distance between the opening flap perimeter and the front sheet perimeter that is at least one inch, a back sheet having a back sheet perimeter, a second inside face, a second outside face, and a first pocket connected near the back sheet perimeter, wherein the front sheet perimeter is connected to the back sheet perimeter,

rotating the first framing rod relative to the second framing rod so that the first framing rod is roughly parallel to the second framing rod,

inserting either ends of the first framing rod and the second framing rod into the first pocket,

incrementally coiling the first framing rod and the second framing rod into the storage bag,

stuffing the flexible skin into the storage bag, and

closing the storage bag.

Claim 25 (previously amended): A method of stowing a fast-erecting portable structure comprising the steps of:

obtaining a fast-erecting tent having a flexible skin, a first flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle, a second flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle, wherein the flexible skin is slidably connected to the middle of the first flexible framing rod, slidably connected to the middle of the second flexible framing rod, non-removably connected to the two ends of the first flexible framing rod, and non-removably connected to the two ends of second flexible framing rod, a third flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle, wherein the flexible skin is removably connected to the middle of the third flexible framing rod and non-removably connected to the two ends of third flexible framing rod and wherein when the fast-erecting portable structure is released, the first flexible framing rod forms substantially into an inverted u-shape with an apex, the second flexible framing rod forms substantially into an inverted u-shape with an apex, and the third flexible framing rod forms substantially into an inverted u-shape with an apex, and wherein the first, second and third flexible framing rods cross each other near the apexes of the inverted u-shapes, and the flexible skin, supported by the first, second and third flexible framing rods forms a dome shape,

obtaining a storage bag comprising a front sheet having a front sheet perimeter, a first inside face, a first outside face, and an opening flap, wherein the opening flap has an opening flap wherein there is a distance between the opening flap perimeter and the front sheet perimeter that is at least one inch, a back sheet having a back sheet perimeter, a second inside face, a second outside face, and a first pocket

connected near the back sheet perimeter, wherein the front sheet perimeter is connected to the back sheet perimeter,
rotating the first framing rod relative to the second framing rod so that the first framing rod is roughly parallel to the second framing rod,
rotating the third flexible framing rod relative to the first and second framing rods so that the third framing rod is roughly parallel to the first and second framing rods,
inserting either ends of the first framing rod, the second framing rod, and the third framing rod into the first pocket,
incrementally coiling the first framing rod, the second framing rod, and the third framing rod, into the storage bag,
stuffing the flexible skin into the storage bag, and
closing the storage bag.

Claim 26 (previously amended): A fast-erecting portable structure system comprising:
a flexible skin, a first flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle, a second flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle,
wherein the flexible skin is slidably connected to the middle of the first flexible framing rod, slidably connected to the middle of the second flexible framing rod, non-removably connected to the two ends of the first flexible framing rods, and non-removably connected to the two ends of second flexible framing rod, and
wherein when the fast-erecting portable structure is released, the first flexible framing rod forms substantially into an inverted u-shape with an apex, and the second flexible framing rod forms substantially into an inverted u-shape with an

apex, and wherein the second flexible framing rod crosses the first flexible framing rod near the apexes of the inverted u-shapes and the flexible skin, supported by the first flexible framing rod and the second flexible framing rod, forms a dome shape, and

a storage bag having an interior pocket, wherein the first flexible framing rod, the second flexible framing rod and the flexible skin can be coiled and stowed inside the storage bag.

Claim 27 (previously amended): A fast-erecting portable structure system comprising:
a flexible skin, a first flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle, a second flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle, and a third flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle,
wherein the flexible skin is slidably connected to the middle of the first flexible framing rod, slidably connected to the middle of the second flexible framing rod, removably connected to the middle of the third flexible framing rod, non-removably connected to the two ends of the first flexible framing rods, non-removably connected to the two ends of second flexible framing rod, and non-removably connected to the two ends of the third flexible framing rod, and
wherein when the fast-erecting portable structure is released, the first flexible framing rod forms substantially into an inverted u-shape with an apex, the second flexible framing rod forms substantially into an inverted u-shape with an apex, and the third flexible framing rod forms substantially into an inverted u-shape with an apex, and wherein the second flexible framing rod crosses the first flexible framing

rod and the third flexible framing rod near the apexes of the inverted u-shape and the flexible skin, supported by the first flexible framing rod, the second flexible framing rod and the third flexible framing rod, forms a dome shape, a storage bag having an interior pocket, wherein the first flexible framing rod, the second flexible framing rod and the flexible skin can be coiled and stowed inside the storage bag.

Claim 28 (currently amended): A fast-erecting tent system comprising:

a storage device,
a fast-erecting tent [[stored]] storable by the storage device, the fast-erecting tent comprising a first flexible framing rod, the first flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle, a second flexible framing rod, the second flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle, a flexible skin, the flexible skin slidably connected to the middle of the first flexible framing rod, slidably connected to the middle of the second flexible framing rod, non-removably connected to the two ends of the first flexible framing rods, and non-removably connected to the two ends of second flexible framing rod,
wherein when the fast-erecting tent is released from the storage device, the fast-erecting tent springs into shape.

Claim 29 (previously amended): A fast-erecting portable structure comprising:

a first flexible framing rod formed substantially into an inverted u-shape with an apex, the first flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle,

a second flexible framing rod formed substantially into an inverted u-shape with an apex, the second flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle, and wherein the second flexible framing rod crosses the first flexible framing rod near the apexes of the inverted u-shapes,
a non-divisible flexible skin, the non-divisible flexible skin slidably connected to the middle of the first flexible framing rod, slidably connected to the middle of the second flexible framing rod, non-removably connected to the two ends of the first flexible framing rod, and non-removably connected to the two ends of second flexible framing rod,
and wherein the two ends of the first flexible framing rod and the two ends of the second flexible framing rod act as a base of the fast-erecting portable structure.

Claim 30 (previously amended): A fast-erecting portable structure comprising:

a first flexible framing rod formed substantially into an inverted u-shape with an apex, the first flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle, the first flexible framing rod being non-jointed,
a second flexible framing rod formed substantially into an inverted u-shape with an apex, the second flexible framing rod having two ends and a middle, and wherein the second flexible framing rod crosses the first flexible framing rod near the [[apex]] apexes of the inverted u-shapes of the first and second flexible framing rods, the second flexible framing rod being non-jointed,
a flexible skin, the flexible skin slidably connected to the middle of the first flexible framing rod, slidably connected to the middle of the second flexible framing rod,

non-removably connected to the two ends of the first flexible framing rods, and non-removably connected to the two ends of second flexible framing rod, and wherein the two ends of the first flexible framing rod and the two ends of the second flexible framing rod act as a base of the fast-erecting portable structure.